**NORA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP SESSION**

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at Nora Springs City Hall

The Nora Springs City Council met in a workshop session on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Blickenderfer called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. with the following members present: Bob Moen, Brian Pederson, Andrew Hicok, Steven Bailey, and Steve Blickenderfer.

Others Present: Jessie Dugan and Tyler Cooper

**Business**

Mayor Pro-Tem Blickenderfer began the evening by running though the proposed revenues. He asked about the current garbage and landfill contract with Absolute Waste and Ms. Yaddof, Acting City Administrator, informed him that this was the last year on the contract and the rate increase would be reflected on the April 2022 utility bills. Ms. Yaddof will provide the Council with the contract information. Ms. Yaddof asked if they would like to make a transfer of $15,000.00 to the Public Works Equipment Fund this year from the Local Option Fund like they have in past years and they decided to okay the transfer. She will need to see if this fiscal year’s transfer has been made. Ms. Yaddof also mentioned the transfer of funds to the 1st Street Bridge Replacement Fund which is for the Historical Signage that is required by the State Historic Preservation Office due to historical nature of the old bridge.

Moving over to expenses, Ms. Yaddof asked what the Council thought of for wages for the upcoming fiscal year. She had provided the Council with the current wages with a 5.7% CPI increase. The Council has asked Ms. Yaddof to determine what wages would be if the seasonal public works worker and part-time public works worker were taken to $18.00 while the part time public works worker – mowing would be taken to $15.00. They would like to see the 5.7% increase applied to the City Administrator, Police Chief, Public Works, and Administrative Assistant. A full time police officer will also be factored into the budget. The comp time policy was also discussed and the Council would like to see the policy and the amount of comp time earned and used for the last year.

Ms. Yaddof proceeded to walk the Council through the proposed budget requests to gather their input on the requests from other entities and departments. Beginning with the expenses she inquired as to their wants of the following entities requests: The Ambulance Director presented the Council with a letter and requested $1424.00. In the prior years the Council has given $1550.00 and they would like to stick with that amount. The Park Cemetery Association requested $4200.00 which is a little higher than prior years but the Council approved the new request. The Nora Springs Historical Society requested $1000.00 and the Council agreed with that request. The Fire Department has not met yet to determine their request. Blickenderfer and Bailey will both attend their meeting on Thursday and let the Acting City Administrator know the outcome.

Ms. Yaddof has included funds for the City Shop LED Lighting to see what the Council’s thoughts were. Tyler Cooper, Public Works Director, stated that it would be nice but he would like to get some other quotes to see if it is something to include in this year’s budget. Cooper also made the Council aware of the need to replace equipment. There was discussion held on which pieces would need to be replaced first and how soon he would like to replace them. He also asked if he could get rid of some of the old equipment that is sitting at the shop. Ms. Yaddof will look further into this to see what is needed to dispose of this property. Jessie Dugan, Police Chief, stated that his budget was similar to previous years but will be looking into possible computers for the squad cards. Ms. Yaddof brought up the option of switching to radio reads for reading meters. She presented the Council with a couple different options and this transition would be covered under the American Rescue Plan. The Council requested more information on the use of the ARP funds and how much the City will receive. Ms. Yaddof is looking at transferring funds to the Buffalo Fund, Ragbrai Fund, and Pool Improvement fund to pay off the amount we borrowed from these funds for the 2021 Street Improvement Project.

Mayor Pro-Tem Blickenderfer closed the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

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Steve Blickenderfer, Mayor Pro-Tem

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Elizabeth Yaddof, Acting City Administrator